

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : To Be Assigned Confirmation No. :  
First Named Inventor : Hiroaki ISHIKAWA  
Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
TC/A.U. : To Be Assigned  
Examiner : To Be Assigned  
  
Docket No. : 038919.56251US  
Customer No. : 23911  
  
Title : Bearing Unit For a wheel

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**

The relevance of references B1 and B2 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background Art in the specification of the present invention.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with

an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

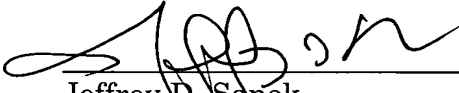
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 038919.56251US.

Respectfully submitted,

April 21, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey D. Sanok  
Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844  
JDS:vgp

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>			<b>Complete if Known</b> <span style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">10/532054</span>		
			Application Number	To Be Assigned	
			Filing Date	Concurrently Herewith	
			First Named Inventor	Hiroaki ISHIKAWA	
			Art Unit	To Be Assigned	
			Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	038919.56251US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	US- 2001/0012419	8/9/2001	Tajima et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	B1	JP 10-217001	8/18/1998	Koyo Seiko Co Ltd.		
	B2	JP2000-234624	9/29/2000	NSK Ltd.		
	B3	JP 2001-80308	3/27/2001	NTN Corp.		
	B4	JP 2001-105807	4/17/2001			
	B5	JP 2001-180210	7/3/2001			
	B6	JP 2001-180212	7/3/2001			
	B7	JP 2001-311442	11/9/2001			
	B8	JP 2001-1711	1/9/2001			
	B9	DE 100 44 509	4/26/2001			
	B10	JP 2001-180211	7/3/2001			
	B11	JP 2001-191715	7/17/2001			
	B12	JP 2001-233011	8/28/2001			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>		10/532054
				Application Number		To Be Assigned
				Filing Date		Concurrently Herewith
				First Named Inventor		Hiroaki ISHIKAWA
				Art Unit		To Be Assigned
				Examiner Name		To Be Assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number		56251US

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

***If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.***